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Medical Officer's
Report

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HEALTH and
SANITARY
CONDITION

OF THE

Urban District of Lees

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER

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REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH and SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1943

*To the Chairman and Members
of the
Lees Urban District Council*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1943.

1.—General Statistics

Area (acres).....	288
Population (1931)	4738
Population (estimated 1943).....	3974
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1943 according to Rate Books	1476
Rateable Value	£18,534
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£70

VITAL STATISTICS

	Per 1000 of estimated population			Maternal Mortality Rate			Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Still Births	
Population	3,974						
Mean of 5 years, 1938-1942	11.8	15.9	0.46	1.90	10.81	8.88	54
Year—							
1942							
1943	15.8	16.6	0.24	1.95	nil	nil	76
	19.6	19.8	0.50	2.51	nil	nil	38
<i>Increase or decrease in 1943 on—</i>							
5 years average, 1938-1942 ...	... +7.8	+3.9	+0.04	+0.61	-10.81	-8.88	-16
Previous year ... ... ...	... +3.8	+3.2	+0.26	+0.56	nil	nil	-38

2.—Causes of Death

	Male	Female
All causes	36	43
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0
4 Whooping Cough	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	2	0
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0
8 Syphilitic diseases	0	0
9 Influenza	2	0
10 Measles	0	0
11 Ac. polio-myel: and polio-enceph.	0	0
12 Ac. inf. enccph.	0	1
13 Cancer of buc.cav.and oesoph (M) uterus (F)	0	1
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
15 Cancer of breast ..	0	0
16 Cancer of all other sites	3	2
17 Diabetes	1	0
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions.....	6	4
19 Heart Disease ..	5	10
20 Other diseases of Circulatory system	1	1
21 Bronchitis	6	4
22 Pneumonia	1	1
23 Other Respiratory Diseases	0	0
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	0
25 Diarrhoea, (under 2 years)	0	0
26 Appendicitis	0	0
27 Other Digestive Diseases	0	3
28 Nephritis	0	1
29 Puerperal and post-abortive Sepsis	0	0
30 Other maternal causes	0	0
31 Premature birth	0	0
32 Con. mal. birth inj. infact dis.	1	1
33 Suicide	0	0
34 Road traffic accidents.....	1	0
35 Other violence causes	0	2
36 All other causes	4	11

3—Notifiable Diseases, (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1943:—

TUBERCULOSIS

(1)—The notification of Tuberculosis is efficient in the district.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...								
1—5 ...								
5—10 ...								
10—15 ...								
15—20 ...								
20—25 ...								
25—35 ...	2	1				1		
35—45 ...	2					1		
45—55 ...								
55—65 ...								
65 & upward								
 Totals ...	 4	 1	 0	 0	 2	 0	 0	 0
	 5		 0		 2		 0	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES	Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
Number Notified						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

4.—Causes of Sickness.

No epidemic during the year.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

None of the Schools in the District have been closed at any time during the year on account of Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Chicken Pox, Influenza, or any other diseases.

SPECIAL REPORTS

No Special Reports have been made under Article 17(7) Sanitary Officers' (outside London) Regulation, 1935.

5.—Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available in the District

Professional Nursing in the home.

(a) General Nursing :

The Lees Sick Nursing Association which is supported by voluntary contributions, employs one Nurse, who attends non-infectious cases among the sick poor. No nursing is provided by the Local Authority.

(b) Infectious Diseases :

No provision for nursing is made.

MIDWIVES

There is now a resident County Midwife in the District.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

A School for Mothers and Ante-natal Clinic has now been provided in this District by the County Authorities.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

FOR SMALL-POX. An arrangement has been completed with Chadderton. Payment per case, and a retaining fee of £25 per annum.

FOR OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, by arrangement with Oldham. Payment per case per week.

There is no Hospital Accommodation in the District for (a) Maternity cases ; (b) Children ; (c) Tuberculosis ; and no institutional provision for un-married mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

are provided by arrangement with Oldham for (a) Infectious Cases, and (b) Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.

6.—**Laboratory Work**

Five Bacteriological Examinations have been carried out in addition to those by the County Tuberculosis Officers.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept at the Council Offices and Police Station, Lees, and is supplied gratuitously to medical men on request.

Acts in force in the District

“The Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1898.”

“Part iii of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.” and “Parts ii, iii, and iv, of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907,” subject to certain conditions and adoptions referred to in an Order of the Local Government Board (No 57,207) dated 28th August, 1911.

Lancashire County Council's, “Rivers Board and General Powers Act 1938,” Sec. 115 and 116.

7.—Sanitary Administration

WATER SUPPLY

There is an efficient supply of water of good quality from the Oldham Corporation Waterworks.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE

This is carried out satisfactorily by the Sanitary Authority. Sewerage of the greater part of the district is conveyed to the sewers of the Oldham Corporation, and is treated at their Outfall works. That of the remainder is treated at our own Sewage works, by the method of precipitation, continuous filters, percolating filters and humus tanks.

Excrement is disposed of principally on the water carriage system, only a few pail closets now remaining.

Refuse is disposed of in Dustbins. They are emptied weekly and the contents removed to the Council's tip.

The following table indicates the number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the close of each of the last five years.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Number of Privy Middens	—	—	—	—	—
„ Pail Closets	26	26	26	26	26
„ Fresh Water Closets	1414	1414	1414	1414	1414
„ Waste Water Closets	81	81	81	81	81
„ Dry Ashpits	—	—	—	—	—
„ Movable Ashbins	1414	1414	1414	1414	1414

NUISANCE INSPECTION

Number of Notices	{	Informal	40
		Statutory.....	0
Number of Notices complied with .....	.....	40	
Number of Legal Proceedings .....	.....	0	
Number of Premises visited .....	.....	920	

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT
These are administered by the Police.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (a) MILK SUPPLY—There are three cowkeepers within the district, their premises being regularly inspected.
- (b) MEAT SUPPLY—Slaughtering is not carried out in the district at the present time owing to the centralisation of Slaughter houses.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces are frequently inspected for the abatement of nuisances, maintenance of sanitary conveniences, and provision of efficient fire escapes.

8.—Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health (part time):

JAMES CURRIE, M.A., M.B., C.M.

Sanitary Inspector :

ARTHUR ANDERSON

9.—Housing.

Unfit Dwelling Houses

1—Inspection

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 260
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 660
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 0
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 0
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 40

2—Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notices

- (1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 40

3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	40
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C. Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CURRIE, M.A., M.B., C.M.

Medical Officer of Health, Lees.

